

Golden's Bridge, NY – U.S. Rep. John Hall (NY-19) announced today that \$120,333 in federal funds has been secured for the Golden's Bridge Fire Department.

The grant will be used to purchase new radio equipment including 22 new portable radios. All 6 of their trucks will now be equipped with 2 radios, and their 3 Chiefs cars will be equipped as well. Additionally, they will purchase a new base station (for dispatching), replacing equipment dating back to 1968, and laptops to go in the fire trucks to improve communications. The department has 40 firefighters.

"I am pleased that the Golden's Bridge Fire Department received this important federal grant to purchase new radio equipment," said Rep. Hall. "Firefighters provide a critical service to the residents of our communities, and being in the line of danger they should have the best equipment that will help them do their jobs safely and to the fullest."

Rob Melillo, Golden's Bridge Fire Commissioner said, "This grant will improve our radio communications. Our area has mountains that make it difficult to talk between trucks, so this will improve communications on that end."

The money comes from competitive Assistance to Firefighters Grant program administered by the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency in cooperation with the U.S. Fire Administration, for use in operations and safety programs. Without federal funding, the cost of the new equipment would fall on local property taxpayers.